

LEAD-ME Council Meeting

September 8, 2005

Meeting Notes

Attendees: MaryAnn Amrich (MCLPPP), Patti Ashland (PHN), Tina Bernier (MCLPPP), Carole Diffrino (MEDEP), Jen Babich (CC Maine RIS), Bob Dodd (CESC), Bill Jenkins (MSHA), Karen Wathen (KRBUL-MMC, Kid's Co-Op), Pam Dietz, KRBUL, MMC, Yvette Bouttenot, City of Lewiston, Gail Lombardi (WIC), Al May MEBOH, Fatuma Hussein (United Somali Women, Ginger Jordan Hillier (DEP), Stirling Kendall (Muskie School), Amy Magill (Muskie School), Mary Wilson (Muskie School)

Welcome and Introductions:

- Each member was asked to introduce themselves with their name and affiliation
- MaryAnn noted that the Council currently has about 25 members
- 4 new members are present at this meeting; about 6 new members will join us at the November meeting

Timeline Activity:

Council members participated in an exercise designed to help them learn more about each other and more about childhood lead poisoning.

- A long piece of paper with years from 1995 to 2005 was taped to the wall
- Each member was asked to draw a line at a particular date on the paper and write a 2-5 word explanation noting the first time they worked on or found out about childhood lead poisoning or lead poisoning prevention
- Each member then explained to group his/her memory
- The exercise was then repeated with a second date
- Finally, as a group, the members filled in the timeline with known events around childhood lead poisoning

Brief Review of the *Strategic Plan to Eliminate Childhood Lead Poisoning*

MaryAnn provided the review

- 2003: CDC said funded states must write plan to eliminate lead poisoning by the year 2010; MCLPP worked with the council to draft the strategic plan; members worked hard to write a plan with interim goals, such as no child with a level exceeding 20 ug/dl by 2007.
- 4 areas of focus were identified
 1. Health/health care screening
 2. Housing
 3. Community mobilization
 4. Other sources of exposure
- 4 workgroups were formed to develop strategies to achieve objectives for each focus area
 - Now working to implement strategies
 - Very committed, working group

Work Groups

- Members then divided into their workgroups. New members were invited to sit with a work group whose members explained the strategies and plans they had worked on for the past year.
- After 20 minutes, new members were invited to move to a different group.

Emerging Issues

- 3 tiers of communication were identified that are not currently being met:
 1. communication between LEAd-ME and other agencies that we want to partner with for elimination plan strategies,
 2. communication between LEAd-ME and those effected by our strategies
 3. communication between LEAd-ME and parents and other community members

Discussion:

- Work plan strategies target partners, but communication is not really happening; how can we make this happen?
 - We can encourage participation on the council or with a work group
 - Perhaps we could send committee members for face-to-face meeting
 - Subgroups might work with others to develop/implement plans
 - Some people might be invited for particular meetings
 - Create a resource guidebook for non-council members
- How can work groups connect between council meetings?
 - Members may need to connect more frequently
 - We could utilize e-mail, videoconferencing, etc.
 - An excel master sheet could be set up, to be updated by each work group regarding goals, tasks, activities
 - A section on the MCLPPP web site will be made available for members of the council

Parent involvement on the council

- Council members want/need input from parents
- MaryAnn invited several parents to join the council; all declined, citing busy lives with young children; however, they all wanted to provide input in some other way
- MaryAnn suggested that MCLPPP set up parent focus groups around the state and ask them to comment on the strategic plan for elimination and the work group strategies and objectives

Legislative Update

Two new laws were passed this session:

- \$.25/gal fee on paint at manufacturer level
 - July 2006 is deadline for rule-making process
 - Nov/Dec: a draft of rules will be available for review
- Stronger lead disclosure warning for rental and real estate
 - Law becomes effective 9/17
 - MCLPPP will post their standard form on the environmental health website

Next Meeting: November 2, 9 – 12, Muskie School, Riverview Room

